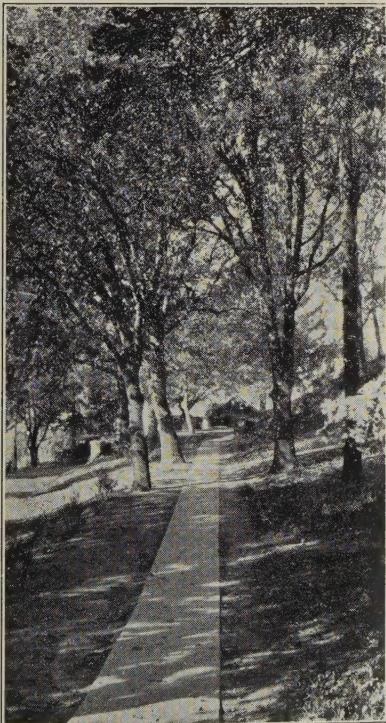
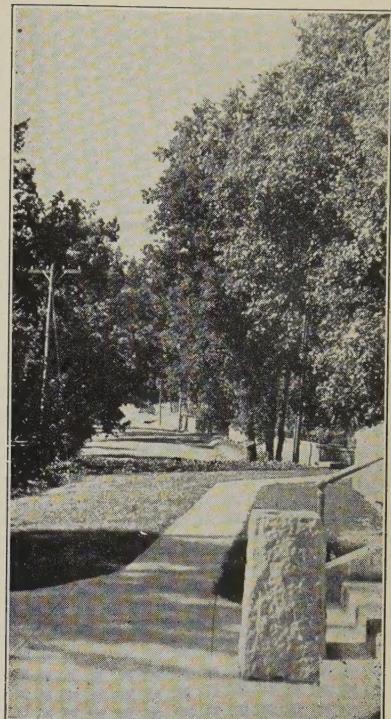


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OCT 3 1947

# Glad Tidings



## Trust

*He loves, He knows, He cares,  
Nothing this truth can dim;  
He gives the very best to those  
Who leave the choice with Him.*

*—Selected.*

October  
1947

Vol. XXII—No. 10

## Editorial . . .

### One of Earth's Principal Ills Is DISTRUST

"He was intreated of them because they put their trust in Him" (1 Chron. 5:20).

Foreign relations, turbulent United Nations meetings, agitating border incidents, stealthy infiltrations, pacts, and policies enunciated and denunciated, the plans of men and the programs of nations, all move against a backdrop of distrust. The talk of war is the audible result of the feelings that lead to battles because nations distrust each other. High prices, whatever else their cause, are aided and abetted by the distrust men have in the future as they try to make the most from now to insure the days to come.

The things that have taken place as pages of history were rapidly filled and turned as the book of human events has developed have caused the distrust that colors the human scene. So much our thinking has been influenced that we find ourselves distrusting almost everybody and everything that has not come to us recommended or what or whom we have not learned to trust by reason of association or experience. Circumstance has made it so. Proper caution is a good attribute to possess as we move in business and social circles. Without it we are gullible and easy victims of those who would take advantage of us. Without caution dangers would take their toll and we would suffer casualties in the handling of vocational and other equipment. Reasonable caution must be observed.

In spiritual matters we find ourselves in a new world of relationship once we are committed to believing the Lord. The Apostle Paul enjoined the Philippians to be careful (anxious) for nothing that could be a matter of prayer (Phil. 4:6). We must learn to trust Him Who is trustworthy, and from there on all distrust should be banished from us. When He makes a claim upon our lives, we should trust His way as best. When He makes a rule for our conduct, then all distrust of the rightness of the Word should be abandoned. When He makes a demand for our service, all distrust for our welfare should be forsaken. When

He woos our hearts to complete consecration, all distrust of the difficulty in living for Him should be cast from us.

Lack of faith bars a sinner from God's grace. Lack of faith robs a child of God of the stability of Christian life. "They that trust in the Lord shall be as mount Zion, which cannot be removed" (Ps. 125:1). Distrust, in whatever degree it is present, opens the seams of spirituality and leaves the life foundering in the unfriendly waters of temptation and trial, opposing forces that are ready to swamp the soul in sin and unbelief. Distrust is the brooding presence that hatches the troubles of nations, and it works havoc in the lives of believers.

We trust Him as our Redeemer; He saves us. We trust Him as our Shepherd; He keeps us. We trust Him as our Master; He rules us. We trust Him as our ascended Lord; He fills us. We trust Him as our King; He is coming for us.

Distrust disintegrates happiness and the sense of security. Trust in the trustworthy gives strength and establishes peace within the heart. Though the world is saturated with distrust, let us partake of the Spirit of Him Who is not of this world (John 17:16). We have everything to gain and not a thing to lose.

—M. M.

#### You Can

If you cannot cross the ocean  
And the heathen lands explore,  
You can find the heathen nearer you;  
You can help them at your door.  
  
If you cannot give your thousands,  
You can give the widow's mite;  
And the least you do for Jesus,  
Will be precious in His sight.  
  
If you cannot be a watchman,  
Standing high on Zion's wall,  
Pointing out the path to heaven,  
Offering life and peace to all,  
With your prayers and with your  
bounties  
You can do what God demands.  
You can be like faithful Aaron  
Holding up the prophet's hands.

—Selected.

#### An Argument With Myself

1. If I refuse to give anything to missions this year, I practically cast a ballot in favor of the recall of every missionary in both home and foreign fields.

2. If I give less than heretofore, I favor a reduction of the missionary forces proportionate to my reduced contribution.

3. If I give the same as formerly, I favor holding the ground already won, but I disregard any forward movement. My song is, "Hold the Fort!" forgetting that the Lord never intended that His army should take refuge in a fort. All His soldiers are under marching orders always. They are commanded to "Go!"

4. If I advance my offering beyond former years, then I favor an advance movement in the conquest of new territory for Christ. Shall I not join this class?

Resolved: I do believe in greatly increasing the present number of our missionaries; therefore, I will increase my former offerings to missionary work.

—A Lover of Missions.  
Taken From "Polytechnic Glad Tidings"

We are not storerooms, but channels;

We are not cisterns, but springs;  
Passing our benefits onward,

Fitting our blessings with wings.

—Selected.

## GLAD TIDINGS

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# Five Stumbling Blocks

## Between Man and Eternal Life

by STANLEY P. MCPHERSON

My text is found in Luke, the ninth chapter, verses 59 to 61. "Follow me . . . I will follow thee, but . . ."

Here a man expresses his readiness to follow Christ, but for one thing. That man was but a type of thousands today, who when asked to follow Christ say, "I will follow thee, but . . ."

What does it mean to follow Christ? It means that we trust ourselves to Christ as our Saviour and to obey Him as our Master. Trust without obedience is mockery. Obedience without trust is presumption. To this the Son of God calls every one of us and yet we hesitate and say, "I will follow thee, but . . ."

I ask one to follow Christ and he says, "There is so much in the Bible that I cannot understand." No doubt that is true; but it is equally true of many things in life. If a man would refuse to eat bread until he understood the chemistry of bread, that man would most assuredly starve.

Paul said in 1 Corinthians 2:14 "But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned."

Mark Twain said, "It is not the parts of the Bible that I do not understand that bother me; it is the part I do understand."

I ask a young man to follow Christ, and he answers, "I am afraid I shall not be able to hold out." Imagine a big league ball player throwing down his bat and saying, "I'm through, those pitchers are against me and are always trying to strike me out." No, he would not do that, but he would try his best to make a home run. God has promised to keep us from falling. Jude 24—"Now unto Him that is able to keep you from falling." Psalm 26:1—"I have trusted in the Lord: therefore I shall not slide."

I ask another to follow Christ and he says, "I will, but—I am not fit. I'll wait

until I become better." None are fit, and that's why Jesus says, "Come." What you cannot do for yourself, He can and will do for you. Jeremiah 13:23—"Can the Ethiopian change his skin, or the leopard his spots? Then may ye also do good, that are accustomed to do evil." Jeremiah 2:22—"For though thou wash thee with nitre, and take thee much soap, yet thine iniquity is marked before me, saith the Lord God." Jesus said, "I came not to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance."

I ask another to follow Christ and he answers, "I will follow Christ, but I am afraid I will have to give up my pleasures." There is only one kind of pleasure to be given up, the pleasures of sin. All deliberate sin and everything that we know is hurtful to us must be given up. Make no mistake about this: all sin must be definitely forsaken; but the Lord has promised in Psalm 84:11—"No good thing will he withhold from them that walk uprightly." "They shall be abundantly satisfied . . . and thou shalt make them drink of the river of thy pleasures"—Psalm 36:8.

I ask another to follow Christ and he answers, "I will follow, but not tonight." Remember God has said, "Behold, now is the accepted time, now is the day of salvation." "Boast not thyself of tomorrow, for thou knowest not what a day may bring forth."

Oh, weary soul, the gate is near,  
In sin, why still abide?  
Both peace and rest are waiting here,  
And you are just outside.  
  
Just outside the door,  
Behold, it stands ajar.  
Just outside the door,  
So near, and yet so far.

Surely we are not asked to follow one who is unworthy of confidence,—but: a master who has never been unjust, a teacher who has never taught untruth, a friend who has never failed, a leader who has never guided wrongly, a general who has never lost a battle, a captain who has never had a shipwreck.

I ask you in His name to fall on your knees and say, "Lord, I will follow Thee whithersoever thou goest." Will you do it now? God grant that you will!

## The Preacher's Study

A professional ministry is a heartless ministry. When salary plays a great part in the ministry, the heart plays little part. We may make preaching our business, and not put our hearts in the business. He who puts self to the front in his preaching puts heart to the rear. He who does not sow with his heart in his study will never reap a harvest for God. The closet is the heart's study. We will learn more about how to preach and what to preach there than we can learn in our libraries. "Jesus wept" is the shortest and biggest verse in the Bible. It is he who goes forth weeping (not preaching great sermons), bearing precious seed, who shall come again rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him.

Praying gives sense, brings wisdom, broadens and strengthens the mind. The closet is a perfect school-teacher and school house for the preacher. Thought is not only brightened and clarified in prayer, but thought is born in prayer. We can learn more in an hour praying, when praying indeed, than from many hours in the study. Books are in the closet which can be found and read nowhere else. Revelations are made in the closet which are made nowhere else.—*E. M. Bounds.*

Let me hold lightly  
Things of this earth;  
Transient treasures,  
What are they worth?  
Moths can corrupt them,  
Rust can decay,  
All their bright beauty  
Fades in a day.  
Let me hold lightly  
Temporal things,  
I, who am deathless,  
I, who wear wings!  
Let me hold fast, Lord,  
Things of the skies,  
Quicken my vision,  
Open my eyes!  
Show me thy riches,  
Glory and grace,  
Boundless as time is,  
Endless as space!  
Let me hold lightly  
Things that are mine—  
Lord, Thou hast given me  
All that is thine.

—Martha Nicholson.

The Apostle Peter in his Second Epistle makes mention of "our beloved brother Paul" in whose epistles "are many things hard to be understood, which they that are unlearned and unstable wrest, as they do also the other scriptures, unto their own destruction." It may be that Peter thought that all he was writing, or had written, was so lucid that there was little danger that its meaning would be misunderstood, or that "unlearned and unstable" men would wrest it to their own destruction, as they had wrested to a similar end some of the things that Paul had written. It is very easy for us to express our thoughts in language that may appear to be clear to us, but that others may not understand, and, consequently, may misinterpret, or, as Peter says, "wrest," so as to make it mean something quite different; something, possibly, diametrically opposite to the meaning it was intended to convey.

The word our translators have rendered "wrest" is *streblousin*, and in the Concordant Version it is rendered "are twisting." By Moffatt, and in both the Berkeley Version and the Smith-Goodspeed Version, it is rendered "twist"; in the Twentieth Century New Testament and the recent Roman Catholic Version, "distort"; and by Weymouth and in the Emphatic Diaglott, "pervert." It will be readily seen what the evident meaning of the Greek word is recognized as being, for these various terms made use of by the different translators are all synonyms and set forth the same thought.

Perhaps, as I have intimated, Peter had no idea, when he was writing his epistles, that some of his writings would be subjected to the same treatment that some of the writings of Paul were being subjected to in his day. But whether the idea occurred to the mind of Peter or not, it is a well known fact that some portions of the epistles of Peter have been *wrested, twisted, perverted, or distorted* as much as have any of the writings of Paul. And this on the part of interpreters who are recognized "authorities" in the realm of hermeneutics or, in more simple language, the interpretation of the Scriptures.

Perhaps it would be well to inject here the thought that, even though a man may be a recognized "authority" in Biblical Exegesis, we are not to regard him as infallible. Many of the very best "authorities" disagree among themselves, and so we are forced to come to the con-

## The Spirits In Prison

by J. NARVER GORTNER

clusion that, in reality, no "authority" is an authority. The term "authority" which we so frequently use, and use carelessly, is a misnomer. The only real "authority" is the Word itself, and as long as man continues to be fallible and attempts to interpret the Word, numerous mistakes are likely to be made. And very frequently the mistakes that men make are made the basis of dogmas that men are required to accept or be adjudged heretics. So we see the great importance of being Spirit-led as we approach the solemn task of interpreting God's Word. Our Lord said, concerning the Holy Spirit, that "when He, the Spirit of truth, is come, He will guide you into all truth" (John 16:13), literally, into all *the* truth, for in the Greek text the definite article is inserted, and every jot and tittle of God's Word is significant, and should not be overlooked.

The passage in Peter's epistles that is, perhaps, the most frequently *wrested* out of its proper doctrinal setting, and made to teach what I am convinced Peter never taught and would have regarded as heresy had it been preached in his day, is the passage in the third chapter of his First Epistle which reads, in our Authorized Version as follows: "For Christ also hath suffered for sins, the just for the unjust, that He might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh, but quickened by the Spirit: by which also He went and preached unto the spirits in prison; which sometime were disobedient, when once the longsuffering of God waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was a preparing, wherein few, that is, eight souls were saved by water."

Here we are told that Christ by the Spirit went and preached unto the spirits in prison, and that the spirits to whom he preached were the spirits of those who were disobedient in the days of Noah, while the ark was being made ready to save all who would seek refuge in it. Mark the fact that it is not stated, or even intimated, that He preached to all who had died before He came.

Here is a sermon outline:

I. The People to Whom Christ

Preached. The antediluvians who perished in the flood at the time Noah and his family were saved in the ark.

II. How Christ Preached to Them. "By the Spirit," the same Holy Spirit evidently by whom He was quickened, or, made alive, after He had been "put to death in the flesh."

III. When Christ Preached to Them. We are told by some expositors that it was after He had been "put to death in the flesh," and before He was "quickened by the Spirit"; in other words, that it was while His body lay in the sepulchre. Our Lord had said, "As Jonas was three days and three nights in the whale's belly; so shall the Son of man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth" (Matt. 12:40). We are told that "the spirits in prison" were "in the heart of the earth," and that the object of our Lord in going there, after His death and before His resurrection, was that He might preach to them. But the careful student will notice that much is assumed or taken for granted. For instance, it is taken for granted that the antediluvians to whom Christ preached by the Spirit were "spirits in prison" at the time Christ preached to them. But Peter does not say so. May we not with equal or even greater logic assume that they were "spirits in prison" when Peter wrote, but that they were not disembodied spirits at the time Christ preached to them? What object could Christ have had in going to them in their prison and preaching to them?

Does the Bible anywhere teach us that if man rejects his opportunity here, and dies in his sin, he will at any time in the future be given another chance? Is it possible that those who refused to heed the warnings that were sounded in their ears just before the terrible deluge broke upon the earth were given an opportunity that other rejectors of the truth are not to have? But we are told by some that Christ did not give them an opportunity to repent; His object in preaching to them was not to summon them to repent and be saved, but simply that they might know that what had been preached to them before they died, and became disembodied spirits, was true; in other words, our Lord's object in going to them was to proclaim His triumph. But all this is assumed. There is no proof of it, and I am convinced that sound exegesis requires us to find

(Continued on page 14)

## Samoa

From their work in Pago Pago comes word from Brother and Sister Herman G. Winkelman, veteran missionaries to the Islands. Their letter includes the following testimony.

"We praise God for manifesting His healing power. We were called on to pray for a baby that was very sick. The precious little one could hardly breathe, but Jesus, Who laid His loving hand on the little ones when He was on earth, touched her and she is well and strong today. The parents came back to give God thanks and they have been attending our meetings. . . . God has worked among these people in healing their sick in years gone by and it has borne weight and been a testimony in many villages to what God is able to do. . . . Natives have reminded us of what was done years ago. A few weeks ago a neighbor brought a woman to be prayed for who was losing her mind. There had been two *Foma'i Samoa* devil doctors visiting her and she had taken some of their medicine. Her husband believed they had put a spell over her as she talked almost incessantly. She came back for prayer for a few days and has said she is all right. A few days ago her husband said she is well. Thank God, to Him be the glory.

"The High Chief Tuiasosopo, who invited Brother Luce to come to Samoa has been interested for many years . . . became very much interested in the deeper truths. He asked if we could get one of our ministers to come and superintend the work of their churches. . . . While we were in America he wrote and said he would like for the minister that would come to have a degree. We were happy to meet Brother Luce just before we left for Samoa. And we believe God is going to use him for His glory."

## Venezuela

From South America we hear from Brother and Sister Lowell E. Dowdy, who are stationed at Caracas.

"Many blessings from the Lord have been our portion and among them was the privilege of having the first convention of the Assemblies of God in Venezuela in our Caracas church. There were 11 states represented and over 140 visitors. We believe that much was accomplished which will be the means of the furtherance of the gospel in Venezuela.

"In the past three months we have

## MISSIONS

visited our out stations where we have baptized believers in water, dedicated babies, performed marriage ceremonies, and preached the Word. We could tell of many interesting experiences including our all night battle with bedbugs which left us looking like we had measles, but we will limit our letter to telling of one new work and of the testimony of a blind brother.

"About two years ago one of our members was saved and she returned to her birthplace, Casupo, a year ago. Though she cannot read or write she gave her testimony. As a result, at the present time there is a congregation of some 40 Christians and seven of them have been filled with the Holy Spirit. It was our joy to visit them not long ago, and we now have our native worker visiting them each week. This group of new converts lives in the mountains two and a half hours walking distance from the town of Caucagua. There is no road, only a mountain trail where one encounters snakes, gnats, mosquitoes, and gluey jungle mud. The night before our trip there had been a heavy rain and the river was up. As there is no bridge, we had to remove our outer garments and wade across, holding our Bibles, song books, clothing, and instruments above our heads to keep them dry. In places the water was up to our armpits. To see the hunger of the people for the Word of God more than a thousand times repaid us for the minor inconveniences we had gone through to make them a visit.

"Last week I visited Tacarigua and stayed in the home of a blind brother whose testimony was an inspiration and a blessing to my soul. He was born 59 years ago in this same town, and, with a few years' exception, has lived there all his life. Emelio Morales was a man completely devoted to his idols. His house was filled with them and his favorite was San Juan. One day in the year of 1935, Emelio lost his mind due to his intense devotion and adoration of the spirits of the saints. He was stricken blind and finally became so violent his wife had to call the sheriff. He was put in the city jail where he remained for two months. They became afraid that he would die there; so they removed him to the hospital ward of the asylum. For two years

our brother was there, dying by degrees because by this time he was not only blind but was dumb, deaf, demented, and had tuberculosis. One night about the hour of midnight he was praying in his crazy manner with his hands placed on the head of his idol San Juan, when a finger appeared to him in a vision and seemed to push him away from the idol. A voice called to him, that surely must have been the voice of the Lord, saying, 'Call upon Me, and he that calleth upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.' The tongue of the dying man was loosed and he began to repeat the Lord's prayer. His ears were unstopped; his lungs were healed; and, above all, his soul was saved and he was clothed in his right mind. He returned to his home; and it is he who has helped begin the gospel services in Tacarigua. . . . Emelio confessed Christ publicly and destroyed all of his idols. Blind Emelio was the first to really see the light in Tacarigua."

## West Africa

Brother and Sister Harold E. Rhodes are very happy with the reinforcements to their staff. Lynda Jeanne, their little daughter, born July 25, is a joy and blessing to natives as well as to her parents. They write:

"We have risen a great deal in the estimation of the Africans, because they are strong believers in children. To them it is a calamity when there are no children. True it is they don't take very good care of their children after they have them, but that is the thing for the missionary and native worker to show them by example. We have had a line of visitors; they are so curious about a white baby. They say our baby looks like an old man because she hasn't much hair. Their babies have mops of black ringlets. They bring a gift of food of some sort; a fowl is a 'big' gift. They come and say '*Momo Kumra*', which means thank you, new mother. They all say thank you over and over again to Geraldine.

"We are in the midst of the rains, and while we enjoy the cool weather it greatly affects our church and Sunday school attendance and other activities. Our people feel the cold. They have no raincoats or umbrellas; so if they venture out and get wet they must sit through

(Continued on page 15)

## WOMEN'S MISSIONARY COUNCIL

Sister R. J. Thurmond was the chairman of the W.M.C. committee at the General Council meeting in Grand Rapids, Michigan. From the work of the committee she presented the following report to the General Council in session.

"The committee appreciates the recognition being given the various District Women's Missionary Councils and individual local women's groups for the good work they have been doing for the workers in home and foreign fields and in sending relief clothing and food to Asia and Europe. By joining hands and coordinating our efforts and encouraging others to join us, we can form a united band to stand behind our invasion army of pastors, evangelists, missionaries, and Christian workers in systematic, continuous, definite prayer, and in supplying food and clothing to needy at home and abroad and in any other means of practical religion. Our great desire is to know the proper channels through which this work can be properly and effectively accomplished that these supplies shall be properly and wisely distributed.

"As near as we can ascertain at present, there are eighteen organized District Women's Missionary Councils now operating directly under their presbyteries and officially recognized by their respective District Councils. They are: Texas, Arkansas, Oklahoma, Southern California, Nebraska, New York-New Jersey, Oregon, Southern Idaho, North Carolina, Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, West Florida, Kansas, Georgia, West Texas, Montana, and Northern California and Nevada.

"The first District to give recognition to the W.M.C. was the Texas District in 1926. This was followed by Arkansas, Oklahoma, Southern and Northern California and others. Commendable work was done by this co-operated effort during the years of depression, especially in the Southern States and in the migratory camps in California. Seven District Women's Councils have been organized since the last General Council. No salaries are being paid to any W.M.C. officer.

"The spiritual phase of the women's work is always emphasized and takes first place. Prayer bands continually and systematically remember the missionaries

and workers and their needs. The practical work done comprises helping with the needs of pastors in small churches and new works, helping widows and orphans, home and foreign missionaries, supplying of visual aid work for children's workers, junior W.M.C.'s with home making classes, C.A. Missionary Councils for the teen-agers where they can use the knowledge gained in hobby classes and workshop classes to make things for children being reached by workers in the home and foreign fields, thus stimulating missionary interest in the local churches among the children. Also included is the distribution of tracts, Bibles, and Christian literature, comforting those in sorrow and lending a helping hand wherever needed. A number of orphanages have been helped with linens and clothing for the children. Also help has been given to Bible schools, and a good work has been done in sending relief to the destitute in China and Europe.

"Since conditions and opinions are so diversified because of the great extent of our fellowship, it would seem best for each District to work under the plan most fitted to its needs. It is proposed that organized district groups be under the supervision of the Home and Foreign Missions Departments at headquarters in Springfield, the wives of all the executives there acting as an advisory board of counsellors, since they are and have been vitally interested in such help as the Women's Missionary Councils are able to give.

"The abundant blessings of the Lord have been upon the women's meetings held here each morning at General Council. They have been very profitable, instructive, and inspiring, and there has not been time enough to hear from all. Mrs. Lindquist from the North Central District thrilled us with the possibilities of what can be done by a small group when we listen to the voice of God and do what He tells us to do. She told of the shipments of food and clothing made to needy in England. Mrs. Steiner of Basel, Switzerland, gave a graphic and heart-touching picture of refugees and Pentecostal believers in Europe who are homeless, starving, and without the bare necessities of life, and are looking to us for relief. We were encouraged to hear from Sister Gladys

Lemmon of Winnipeg, Canada, that there is a successful, organized women's work being carried on in that country with similar plans, purposes, and projects.

"Brother McGlasson, who is in charge of the Foreign Missions office in New York City, enlightened us in telling us about the assistance he is able to give the missionaries as they prepare for the field. Also presented were plans now in progress for an orphanage for homeless and abandoned children in Mexico.

"Present needs are food and clothing for abandoned babies in South China where Sister Perdue is endeavoring to establish an orphanage. There is need for a refrigerator and electric vacuum sweeper for the Kentucky Children's Home. There is need for linens and all kinds of household articles, a kitchen stove, mangle, and sewing machine for the missionary home in Shanghai; and the need remains for clothing, food, and funds for Asia and European relief. More information about these can be obtained from the Missions Department at Springfield.

"We women desire to fit into the place the Lord has ordained for us, i.e. 'the hand' of His body, the church. 'She stretcheth out her hand to the poor, yea, she reacheth forth her hands to the needy' (Prov. 31:20)."

### Missionaries Sailing

On the *Marine Phoenix* from San Francisco, Brother and Sister A. M. Heetebry are leaving October 21 for the Fiji Islands. They are returning to their work of many years after a year of furlough.

\* \* \* \* \*

Sister Corabelle Luce sails October 21 for Samoa to join her husband, Maurice H. Luce, who went out to that mission field in July.

\* \* \* \* \*

Brother and Sister Arthur Lindvall have received missionary appointment to Central America. They expect to leave about the first of the year.

**ACCORDION FOR SALE.**—The instrument is three years old and in perfect condition. It is a large size Soprani, Style Papile E 3. There are four shifts on the treble and two on the bass. Price \$400 cash. For further particulars write Evangelist Dorothy Fowler, 399 W. Washington Street, Sunnyvale, California.



# The District Council

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W. T. GASTON,  
Superintendent

R. J. THURMOND,  
Secretary-Treasurer



## GENERAL COUNCIL REPORT

by R. J. THURMOND

It was a happy occasion to meet again with brethren of our great fellowship from all over the United States and to find a large number of our own District brethren and sisters and their families in attendance at the General Council in Grand Rapids, Michigan. There were over 2,500 who registered at the convention; 1441 were eligible voters.

The convention got off to a grand start with a great C.A. meeting on the preconvention rally night with Brother N. E. Hinman of Sacramento as the speaker. As the General Presbytery was in session, some of us had to miss this service, but from all reports it was a blessing to the throng in attendance. The auditorium seats 5,500 and it was well filled at the night services throughout the convention.

Our beloved General Superintendent, E. S. Williams, opened the convention with a challenging message from the ninth chapter of St. John, on working for God "while it is day." Surely all hearts were stirred to a new vision for the work God has given us to do.

The General Secretary-Treasurer, Brother J. R. Flower, presented printed reports of all departments and commented briefly on the various details as he felt would be helpful. The General Council now has an enrolled membership of 243,515; 5,548 affiliated and co-operating churches; 5,746 ordained ministers plus 4,477 licentiates and exhorters.

The Foreign Missions Department reports having a personnel of 614 missionaries. The offerings for foreign missions for the two-year period totaled \$3,883,544.17. We were glad to note that included in the list of the 25 leading assemblies in foreign missionary offerings Oakland First Church ranked 18th with \$13,853.99 and Sacramento Bethel Temple was the 25th with \$10,-

990.44 for the period from August 1, 1945 to July 31, 1947.

The Home Missions Department, C.A. Department, Educational Department, and Publications Department, all had good reports. The Gospel Publishing House also had a good report, though the profits were smaller due to rising labor costs and rise in paper costs. The Sunday School Department, Central Bible Institute, and National Children's Home reports closed this part of the opening of the General Council, leaving as the main order of business the consideration of the revisions of the constitution and by-laws. Brother Gaston was chairman of the revision committee. Much credit is due him and the others on the committee for their good work.

Though it took the first three and a half days in going through the revisions, and some amendments were made after lengthy discussions, the end came and final adoption was voted. The very controversial clause that seemed to bear on the sovereignty of the churches was debated at length and when put to a vote was not adopted, leaving the article as it formerly was.

The election of officers took the remaining days of the Council, as there was a large voting constituency. Business was conducted in between the taking of ballots. All the officers were re-

### Santa Cruz Campground

Lots in Bethany Park, our new campground, will be on sale October 20 and after to those who have not previously made a deposit. Depositors will have already had opportunity to select their lots.

elected on the nominating ballot. Several names were presented for General Treasurer, a new office, and after several ballots Brother Wilford Brown of Indiana was elected. He will take office probably within 90 days.

Brother J. Narver Gortner wrote in that due to the condition of his health his name should not be considered for nonresident executive presbyter, which position he has held for many years. After several ballots Brothers Flem Van Meter, D. P. Holloway, Bartlett Peterson, and A. A. Wilson were elected as the four nonresident executive presbyters. This leaves the West Coast without representation on the Executive Presbytery, but we feel sure all the executive presbyters have a view to the general good of the entire movement.

Representatives from South Africa, England, Puerto Rico, Canada, and Switzerland were introduced during the convention.

The memorial service for our departed comrades and communion service on Sunday morning were impressive and precious to all our hearts.

The great foreign missionary service Sunday afternoon, with over 100 missionaries present from many sections of the world, thrilled our hearts. It was reported that the offering taken at that service was \$4,750.00.

Throughout the balloting various matters of business were presented. The national radio program was considered. A change in the type of program after November 1 was promised. It is hoped that all will get behind the program with

(Continued on page 11)

## Reminiscence on Convention Highlights

It is with great joy that I bring you this brief account of what took place at the General Council in Grand Rapids. It made every one realize the strength and power of our great movement. There is no doubt that God is in it and that we are gaining new heights every day.

We enjoyed the ministry of our brethren. Every minister who preached was anointed of the Holy Ghost. Each message seemed to dwell on one theme, "Back to Pentecost," and the messages found their way into every heart, stimulating faith and creating new desires to be the one that should stand in the gap and make up the hedge. I talked to many of the ministers and all expressed their desire to seek God until the fire of the Holy Ghost would once again take complete possession of their souls.

What a sight to behold—multitudes lifting up their voices in praise and adoration to God. What thrilled our hearts was the sight of hundreds of our Christ's Ambassadors lost in the Spirit of God. Like the voice of many waters and like the heavenly choir itself were the voices of our precious youth blended together in praise and thanksgiving unto Him Who called them out of darkness into His marvelous light.

Your officers, Brother Custock, Brother Steelberg, and I received much from this glorious convention. And there is a great desire in our hearts to be definitely Pentecostal and that every C.A. should seek His face until the fire of the Holy Ghost burns in every soul. It is our conviction that to see results and to have success we must seek His face until our very being is charged with the mighty power and presence of the Holy Ghost. The cry of our souls is that the Lord will make every one of our C.A.'s a soul winner.

Another great convention highlight was the great Speed-the-Light program. How proud we are to know that it is our very own C.A.'s that are making it possible for some of our missionaries to reach the remote places and present the glorious light of truth to a heathen peo-

ple. The cry of our C.A.'s is speed the light and continue to speed the light until Jesus comes.

The wonderful C.A. vesper services were a blessing to us and our souls were enriched by the youth speakers. The message on their hearts was "Back to Pentecostal power" and the fact that we, as young Christians, must realize our great responsibility. Said one fiery young pastor: "We are to be held accountable for the souls of young men and women today." One of the vesper services was given over to presenting the importance of youth camps. Pictures were shown of the youth camp sponsored by the Southern California District. Testimonies were given telling of wonderful conversions. In one camp 19 young people received the baptism of the Holy Spirit. Friends, youth camps do pay! In my own church I can say that many of our young people were saved and filled with the Holy Ghost, and it still holds good today. Some of them were saved at Lake Tahoe and others were saved and filled with the Holy Spirit at Asilomar. My prayer is that every pastor will see the needs of our youth and will stand behind every

youth endeavor. Youth camps are the means of a good balance for young spiritual lives. Our youth need both recreation and re-creation. I believe that as time goes on, and if Jesus tarries, youth camps will sweep the country and will be the means of a mighty ingathering of precious young souls.

General Council is past, but its memories will linger until our next conference. With my heart stirred and thrilled, I thank God for the wonderful opportunity the Lord gave me to attend General Council this year.

## Stranger Than Fiction

As the quaint clocks of old England chimed the hour of dawn on a crisp winter morning in 1709, the fate of a million souls lay in the balance. For tragedy would that day stalk a British rectory, whose location has since joined the legitimate shrines of Christendom.

Out of the ordinary routine of that day a cry of "Fire!" arose from billows of smoke surging forth from fiery lungs within the building.

Forgetting their own peril, a frantic father and mother set about to insure the safety of their children. Time was against them, and they scarcely escaped with their lives.

When they thought all had been brought to safety, they paused for rest. Then they discovered that one was yet upstairs. The father ran to the house, only to find the stairway blocked by a sheet of flame.

Hope gone, the parents tearfully committed their doomed son to God. But then three village men, whose names nobody knows, formed a human ladder beside the house. The hot flames scorched their clothes and blistered their skin but they kept to their task until the top man reached through an upstairs window and brought the lad to safety.

A couple of decades later, that lad, John Wesley by name, shook the world with the power of his preaching.

—Norman E. King.

## Speed-the-Light

The small but faithful group of C.A.'s of Woodland, under the leadership of their president, Gale Humphrey, are contributing generously toward the Speed-the-Light program. They have set as their goal over \$200—this will average over \$20.00 per person! Hats off to Woodland! Will any C.A. group challenge Woodland and top this five-star offering?

# SPEEDING the LIGHT

# bassadors

## Custock's Comments

**General Council**—How happy I am that I was privileged to attend General Council at Grand Rapids! My soul was refreshed and blessed. Your C.A. officers left for Grand Rapids with a firm conviction to yield their lives completely to the Lord that He may enable us to be true Pentecostal youth leaders, realizing more than ever that the one thing that has made our beloved movement what it is today is the fact that we have in the past honored the third person of the Trinity, the Holy Spirit, in our meetings, and have taken the whole Word of God. I believe if we stay humble we are yet to witness a world-wide ministry of the Pentecostal message like we've never seen before.

**C.A. Convention**—Just another month and hundreds of C.A.'s will trek to Turlock for three happy convention days. Nothing will be spared to make this one of the greatest and we trust one of the most spiritual conventions to date.

We are asking every C.A. group to set November 2 to 6 for a week of earnest prayer. We wish to see the Lord touch and transform lives, and give results that will eternally glorify His Name. And this can be realized only through prayer. Perhaps a prayer chain will be desired or a daily gathering for prayer—whatever method is used, let us enlist every C.A. for this special time of seeking God.

**C.A. Project**—We believe the C.A.'s of our District are anxious to help in a real financial way in the development of our new campground at Santa Cruz. It would be well if a contest could be started between the various C.A. groups or subdistricts in this new endeavor. The opening kick-off for this latest District-wide C.A. project will be launched at the convention at Turlock.

**Speed-the-Light**—I am glad to report that if we do our very best during the remaining months of this year we stand

an excellent chance of leading America in the national Speed-the-Light campaign. \$917.00 came in during the month of August. Here's our opportunity to do something in a real constructive manner in reaching those in the night with the Light. Continue to send your Speed-the-Light offering to our C.A. Secretary-Treasurer, Wesley P. Steelberg, P.O. Box 401; San Leandro, Calif.

## Letter Month

It has come to our attention that many of our consecrated missionaries are soon forgotten after leaving the shores of America. Letters are a morale uplift to our missionaries, who many times go for months without seeing a white man. The month of October is "Letter Month"; so please write at least one letter to some missionary. Here are the names and addresses of some of our C.A.'s who have left our District for foreign service for the cause of Christ and heathen souls.

1. Paul and Violet Pipkin, Box 75, Shanghai, China
2. James and Marjorie Baker, Kunming, Yunnan, China
3. Ovid and Helen Dillingham, Lakhimpur, U.P., India
4. Lowell and Virla Dowdy, Lista de Cartas, Caracas, Venezuela
5. Oliver and Gwendolyn Foth, "The Manse," Coonoor, Nilgiris, South India
6. Harold and Naomi Lehmann, Box 2, Tamale, N.T., Gold Coast, West Africa
7. Floyd and Grace Thomas, Walewale, N.T., Gold Coast, West Africa
8. Robert and Margaret Thomas, Juan de Dios Videla 321, Mendoza, Argentina
9. Harold and Geraldine Rhodes, Box 265, Freetown, Sierra Leone, W. Africa

• MAURICE V. CONTRERAS, Vice-President

P.O. Box 97, Los Banos

• WESLEY P. STEELBERG, Secy.-Treas.

P.O. Box 401, San Leandro

## Youth Work Pays!

by E. JUDSON CORNWALL

I am firmly sold on youth work! In this one work you reap benefits for the present and build a church for the future. I fear, however, that in the past I, and perhaps others, have come to think of youth work as simply being a C.A. service. I thought of youth work as a separate distinct activity of the church much in the same way we thought of Sunday school in times past. It was my conviction that the Sunday school, the C.A. service, and an occasional social would take care of the youth work and that as they grew to adulthood they could become more active workers in the church. I simply accepted and aided them for the potentiality they would be to our future church.

Now I see how wrong I have been. Youth are not to be tolerated for future potentiality but should be encouraged for their actual assistance in the present church program. Since our arrival in Stirling City, some nine months ago, we have endeavored to push the youth activity over and above any other activity of the church. We encouraged the young people to take a full evening for their services instead of just an hour on Sunday evening. We have sponsored youth revivals, children's hours, inspirations, weiner roasts, socials, and have done every thing in our power to make the C.A.'s a more attractive and interesting place for the youth of the community. "What has been the result?" Within two months we had to double the amount of chairs in the auditorium. Our youth revivals more than packed these out until we had to borrow chairs, sit double and triple in seats and even stand in the vestibule. We have seen the Sunday school jump from the low 30's to an all time high of 89 and we are still feeling growing pains. On the whole, our youth activities (Sunday school and C.A.'s) are reaching over 85% of the entire school system here in Stirling City.

Well and good, you might say, for a program for the youth, conducted by the youth, in a youthful manner always

(Continued on page 13)

# THOSE in the NIGHT

# In the Interest of the SUNDAY SCHOOL

L. W. SUTER, District Sunday School Representative

## EVANGELISM

The five major functions of a New Testament church are evangelism, preaching, worship, teaching and training. It is the responsibility of the church to reach and to save the lost. The place of evangelism in the church is an absolute necessity as the church can only exist by evangelism. The spirit of evangelism should permeate all phases of the work of the church even as the yeast permeates the bread.

The great passion of the Lord Jesus Christ was for the souls of men. Luke 19:10 tells us, "For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which is lost." The commission which He gave to the church not only was, but still is, "Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned." This commission was not given to the ministry but to the church. Therefore the evangelization of men is the task of the *whole* church. The church has been given the necessary power for this work through the infilling of the Spirit. Some of the last words spoken by the Lord before His ascension were, "Ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth."

If we will stop to think for a moment we will realize that when we were first saved, the first thing we wanted to do was tell someone else what had happened to us. Thus if we are really filled with the Spirit we will constantly be endeavoring to tell others of the One that fills our heart. I have noticed that as long as the members of the church were busy telling others of the power of Christ to save that they were never questioning as to how close to the world they could get without actually losing out with God.

Somehow, the church of today has delegated to the ministry the work of evangelization. If we will look into the

Scripture we will find that the apostles remained in Jerusalem while the church which was scattered abroad went everywhere preaching the word.

The most important business of the Sunday school is evangelism. The Sunday school is measured by its success in leading its pupils to Christ. If it fails in this, it has failed in the work for which it was established. To have real evangelism in the Sunday school the attention of the pastor, every officer and teacher in the school is required.

The pastor is an integral part of the Sunday school. In fact he is the head of the Sunday school. To be a real pastor he must be vitally concerned about the organization, its program, and the goal toward which the Sunday school is working. The pastor must set the example as a soul-winner if he expects his people to be soul-winners. It is necessary for him to get together with his officers and teachers frequently to instill into their hearts the need of evangelism in the Sunday school. This can be done by coming together at the monthly workers' conferences and also by having teacher training courses on evangelism.

The superintendent must also realize that what he does plays a definite part in evangelism. He should center the work of the Sunday school in evangelism. It is his responsibility to direct the classes so that they are continually reminded of the fact that the lost are still in need of salvation. The need of souls must be kept in mind in the worship services of the school. The superintendent, even as the pastor, must also be an example to his staff as a soul winner.

The teachers must be positively evangelistic in their teaching. Each teacher must realize that he is not only a shepherd to that flock that he has been entrusted with but he is also an evangelist to them. Preachers have been known to preach their sermons and when conviction was resting upon the congregation they continued to preach, because they still had something left to say, until conviction had lifted. Teachers have done

## Attention—Pastors

Don't forget that this is check-up month. Those check-up forms for 1946-47 which were mailed to you in the month of September from the district Sunday School office should be filled in immediately and returned to the District Sunday School office at 2900 Irwin St., Vallejo, Calif. It helps us to know how to help you when we know what your school is doing.

\* \* \* \* \*

## Subdistrict Sunday School Conference

Peninsula Subdistrict — Palo Alto  
October 20 and 21

the same thing. They were determined to fill the class period with what they had to say instead of following the leading of the Spirit. Many times the Lord sends conviction upon the pupil while the teacher is teaching. Then is the time for the teacher to stop teaching and pray that soul through. If they let them go until the time for the morning service we find many times that conviction has lifted and the desire to come to the Lord at that particular time has gone.

Many times the teacher has the privilege of leading pupils to Christ by inviting them to their home. I remember reading of a teacher who went to the pastor and wanted to resign her class of boys. When the pastor asked for the reason she stated that it was because none of them had given their hearts to the Lord and she was discouraged. After talking with her for some time the pastor suggested that she invite the boys to come to her home one by one and endeavor to win them to Christ before resigning. She agreed to this and had one of the boys come to her home for dinner one evening. After dinner the conversation was guided into the channel of spiritual things and before the boy had left the home he had knelt and given his heart to the Lord. She continued inviting them one by one until the entire class was gloriously saved.

The story is told of a highly educated minister coming to Dwight L. Moody at the close of an address and saying to him coldly, "Excuse me, but you made eleven mistakes in your grammar tonight." Mr. Moody smiled and said, pleasantly, "Probably I did. My early education was very faulty. But I am using all the grammar I know in the service of the Master. HOW ABOUT YOU?"

I have just received one of the new NATIONAL SUNDAY SCHOOL STANDARD charts from our National Sunday School Department at Springfield, Mo. If you would like to have one of these charts you can write to them and they will send you one immediately. The Lighthouse Plan was discarded the last of September and we are now working on the National Sunday School Standard.

—L. W. Suter.

## General Council

(Continued from page 7)

personal contributions and church offerings to eliminate the heavy deficit having to be carried. Local churches can now arrange for the transcriptions to be released through them to their local stations and thus eliminate a high agency rate. We have promised to encourage contributions and interest in the broadcast. We trust that all who read this will take this on your hearts in prayer and in giving.

The War Department sent a representative to present an award for the meritorious work of the Assembly of God chaplains and servicemen. Brother Williams responded with a real tribute to all who had served and by extending wishes for the peace and safety of our nation.

As time permitted, committee chairmen presented reports with their various recommendations. Space does not permit the recording of them here.

Suffice it to say the liberal arts college recommendation lost again this year. The Ministers' Benefit Association committee report was referred back for further study and for presentation at the next General Council. Our military stand was re-affirmed. A permanent committee is to be appointed to work on the establishment of a home for the aged. The W.M.C. report was accepted and the work of the women was commended. Other items were presented, but the entire General Council report will be found in the current and recent *Evangel*, which you are undoubtedly reading; so there is no need for a lengthy report here.

Though the weather was hot in Grand Rapids and the prices were high we enjoyed the days of the convention. The Spirit of God brooded over the gathering and we felt led as to the will of the Lord in the many matters. Though all

may not see alike, yet we are brethren in the Lord and our one desire and aim is to ever please Him and for His will to be done.

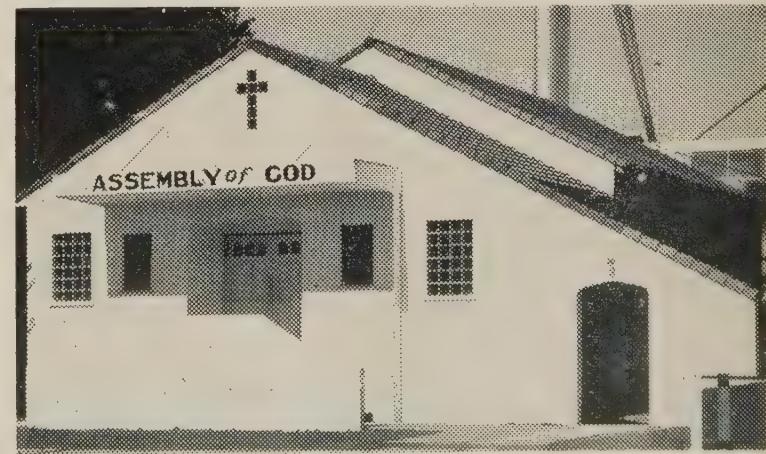
I believe nearly 100 of our Northern California and Nevada fellowship made the trip by train, bus, plane, or car. All in all, we believe it was helpful and blessed to us all and we joyfully look forward to the next General Council in 1949 being nearer to us and in a cooler place. The brethren of the Northwest District gave an invitation to Seattle. In the event Denver again cannot accommodate the convention, by 1949, we will go to Seattle. Either place will not be too far distant; so we will look forward again to seeing even a larger representation from our District at the next General Council.

### New Gustine Church

There were afternoon and evening services Monday, September 29, the day the very lovely new church building in Gustine was dedicated. Brother Thurmond was the evening speaker for the occasion and dedicated the fine new building Pastor Dan E. Flaming has erected.

The new church has a full basement, which accommodates a C.A. chapel and Sunday school rooms. There is an inter-communication system, and a sound-proof nursery has also been provided. The church was started as a home missions work only three years ago and it has grown to the extent that now it is an asset to the District and to the work of the Lord. This is among the finest looking churches in the Valley and the local assembly may be justly proud of it. We trust that many souls will be saved and blessed in it and much shall be done in the interest of the kingdom of our Lord.

The new  
Church building  
Pastor Dan E.  
Flaming has  
just completed  
in Gustine.



## Glad Tidings Bible Institute

The fall semester opened September 22 with a large student body eager to study the Word of God in preparation for the ministry or any other Christian service to which they may be directed by the hand of the Lord. The school building is crowded to capacity and is overflowing. New students have come in from far and near and are settling down to the program of classes and assignments while at the same time they are waiting on the Lord for the anointing and blessing on their souls and His hand of guidance on their lives.

Brother William E. Pickthorn is the new dean of the school. Since he left the teaching staff of Central Bible Institute over a year ago, he has been engaged in Sunday school conference work and in a ministry to youth, as well as in evangelistic work. Brother Leslie T. Holdcroft, who has been a Bible school teacher for several years in Canada, comes to us from Winnipeg. Sister Wanda Thompson, who graduated from G.T.B.I. in June and who is a former school teacher, is the new English teacher. Dr. Lucena E. Turner has returned to the teaching staff and is the dean of girls. Brother Vernon Gararden is the new registrar, and Sister Emmy Pearson is dining room hostess and in charge of household duties. Brother and Sister L. R. Keys are remaining on the teaching staff and Brother Keys, as announced formerly, is the principal. Sister Alice Rice continues on as cook.

A college education never hurt anyone who was willing to learn something afterwards.

\* \* \* \* \*

Some folks would rather lose a friend than an argument.

ALAMEDA—Evangelists Helen Beasley and Sally Bradley, recent graduates of G.T. B.I., had a very good two weeks revival campaign with Pastor and Mrs. A. E. Osborn the last half of August.

BIGGS—Brother Everett C. Hancock is the new pastor at Biggs. He is successor to Brother Edmond L. Rey, who has gone to Yuba City.

CENTERVILLE—Brother and Sister C. R. Peterson held a campaign there for three weeks, beginning August 3, for Pastor H. H. Burgess. Since the close of the campaign Brother Peterson has been supplying the pulpit while Brother and Sister Burgess are in Southern California caring for a relative who is ill.

CHICO—The interior of the church is being painted and improvements are being made on the church annex for better Sunday school use. The Libby Family was there for two nights of services September 17 and 18. A Sunday school conference is to be held there by Brother Suter on October 5, 6, 7. On the 12th the Parlotz Evangelistic Party will begin a campaign. The pastor is E. Wm. Anderson.

ESCALON—Brother Wesley P. Steelberg has been chosen to be the new pastor, succeeding the late Brother A. Byron League. Evangelist Jack White has supplied the pulpit for several months.

FALLON—When the Nevada district fellowship meeting was held there September 1 the gathering was the occasion for the mortgage burning ceremony of the local church. The speakers were Brother Vernon Ragsdale of Lovelock and Brother J. S. Jamison of Susanville. The pastor at Fallon is Brother S. H. Robertson.

EL CERRITO—Brother Clyde V. Hummel supplied the pulpit for three weeks while Pastor and Mrs. L. H. Rogers were away attending the General Council meeting. Brother Hummel has returned to Idaho to continue on in evangelistic work.

FORTUNA—Brother and Sister L. W. Suter were there August 24 and conducted a very profitable Sunday school workers' conference. In July Brother Thomas Custock was the speaker at the Redwood district C.A. rally held there. Brother Elmer C. Andrews is the pastor.

FRIANT—Brother Edward E. Bodenhofer has built a church up near the big dam by that name about 20 miles northeast of Fresno. A 26 x 40 building has been erected and Brother Bodenhofer started to hold services in it early in September. We trust this new gospel enterprise will soon grow in winning many souls to the Lord.

GRASS VALLEY—Bethel Church is in the midst of erecting a new church building on Buena Vista Avenue. The construction so far includes the basement, the sub-floor, and studding for walls of the main auditorium. Part of the plumbing has been installed. The size of the building is 44 x 80, with arrangements for Sunday school rooms in the basement. Plans include rest rooms in the basement and on the main floor, nursery, baptistry, choir loft, prayer rooms and other equipment. They have a half-hour radio

## News from . . .

# Here and There

ALBERT J. LEBECK, Field Reporter :: 2622 W Street :: Sacramento, California

broadcast each Sunday night beginning at 9:45 over Grass Valley's new radio station KGFN, 1400 kc. The pastor is Brother W. A. McBride.

GRIDLEY—Pastor Charles L. Elmes reports having a fine meeting with Evangelist W. E. Edmunson who held a campaign there recently.

KELSEYVILLE—Evangelist Neimyer of Southern California has been holding a meeting for Pastor Luther Perkins. The campaign began August 31.

KLAMATH—Reports Pastor N. R. Ingram of the meetings Evangelist Russell Ridgeway of Mobile, Alabama, held for 11 days recently: "It was one of the most outstanding meetings we have ever witnessed. Five were saved and six were baptized in water. A Filipino family was saved and enjoyed a glorious experience after the baptismal service. Feeling the Lord so directed them, they gave their car, fully equipped, to Sisters Thelma Simpkins and Nellie Ongias . . . \$794 was raised for the parsonage."

LOWER LAKE—The Lake-Mendocino fellowship meeting was held there September 1. It was held the same day as the scheduled C.A. rally; so the evening service was a young people's meeting. Pastor Ella M. Beare reports recently closing a good meeting with Evangelists Kathleen Carter and Rose Mary Berlin. Brother Mackey Lancaster of Boonville was the speaker for the C.A. rally. His brother, Burton Lancaster, a visitor in the District, was the afternoon speaker.

MONTE VISTA—Evangelists Helen Beasley and Sally Bradley recently had a good campaign with Pastor Jas. C. Merwin for three weeks.

OAKLAND (Calvary)—Evangelist Stanley McPherson began a campaign with Pastor V. Ernest Shores on September 23.

PITTSBURG—Pastor C. E. Freeze reports that 14 were filled with the Holy Spirit and a number were saved during the three weeks revival meeting Evangelist and Mrs. Alexander of Oklahoma held there recently.

POINT ARENA—The Lake-Mendocino fellowship meeting was held there August 19. The afternoon speakers were Brother Ivan Chapman of Fort Bragg and Brother Mackey Lancaster of Boonville. Brother Adrian Benning of Willits brought the evening message. Brother John A. Westfall is the pastor.

RICHMOND—Evangelist Florence Boucher supplied the pulpit while Pastor C. E. Persing was away to the General Council meeting.

SACRAMENTO (Bethel)—A new Sunday school bus has been purchased. During Pastor Nelson Hinman's absence while at General Council his brother Mark Hinman of Lodi had charge of the services on Sundays and Tuesdays. Brother Keith Hill has

been called as assistant pastor. He comes from Tulsa, Oklahoma, and will assume his duties October 1.

SAN FRANCISCO (Glad Tidings)—There was good interest and souls were saved and filled with the Spirit during the three weeks Evangelist Stanley McPherson held meetings in the temple, closing September 21. Brother McPherson was the Sunday morning speaker and the Saturday morning radio speaker during the absence of Pastor L. R. Keys while at General Council.

SAN LEANDRO—Pastor W. P. Steelberg has resigned to go to Escalon.

SANTA ROSA—Brother L. R. Anderson, assistant pastor, supplied the pulpit at all services while Pastor M. P. Bohnet was at General Council.

SEASIDE—Evangelists Helen Beasley and Sally Bradley began a three weeks campaign with Pastor Carroll J. Hodges on September 21.

SEBASTOPOL—A recent report from Pastor J. L. Jeffrey reads: "Brother and Sister Alexander have been with us for the last three weeks. The revival is still on. This is the best revival we have ever had here. A number have been saved and 29 have received the Holy Ghost up till now, and we are looking for still greater results. Brother and Sister Alexander may be contacted at our address, 441 High Street, Sebastopol."

ST. HELENA—A very good tent meeting was held downtown for three weeks with Evangelists Eddie and Ruth Washington conducting the services. Some were saved and there was good interest shown in the meetings. Brother R. C. Fulmer has resigned as pastor, his resignation to become effective November 1.

SUNNYVALE—Brother C. O. Wood has resigned as pastor to go to be pastor of the First Assembly of God in Phoenix, Arizona.

TRACY—The building has been slowed up, but the basement has been pretty well fixed up and the congregation is worshiping in it. It is hoped that the auditorium will be finished by the first of the year. For three weeks in July Evangelist Raymond L. Neal held a very good meeting which stirred the people and has resulted in very good attendance since the campaign. Brother L. A. Lawrence is the pastor.

TUOLUMNE—Brother W. A. Frazier is the new pastor, succeeding Sister Dixie P. Thollander.

WEED—"Sister Hazel MacLeod recently completed a very successful four weeks campaign. There were a number saved, filled with the Holy Spirit, and there was a building up of the church in general. Old-fashioned tarrying meetings followed each service, the kind we have not seen in years. The Sunday school reached a new all-time rec-

ord of 161. Young people were stirred. Street meetings were started as a result of the revival effort, with a large number of the young people taking part."—Pastor H. W. Brown. From Weed Sister MacLeod went to Klamath Falls, Oregon, where she has been in a revival campaign.

WEOTT—Pastor H. H. Teeters reports: "Our little church was packed out in both the afternoon and evening services of our fellowship meeting. We certainly felt the presence of the Lord in both services. Brother Rowe of Hoopa was the afternoon speaker and Brother Ridgeway, who was the evangelist at the Hoopa camp meeting, spoke in the evening."

WILLOWS—The August fellowship meeting in the North Sacramento district was held in Willows, where Brother Albert Rowley is pastor.

YUBA CITY—A big rally and Sunday school conference was held there Monday night, September 22 and all day Tuesday, the 23rd. Some of the speakers were J. W. Stovall, Oliver Hall, W. A. McBride, Miss Nettie Newcomb, M. Leslie Crosson, R. A. Wilson, L. W. Suter, Mrs. R. A. Wilson, Floyd R. Hoole, S. F. Hutchinson, B. H. Givens, and the pastor, Edmond L. Rey. The church served a fellowship dinner Tuesday evening.

### New Arrivals

Constance Ann was a very welcome arrival in the home of Pastor and Mrs. Adrian Benning of Willits on August 8.

\* \* \* \* \*

Pastor and Mrs. Maurice A. Caudill of Chester have a new son. He was born July 29 and his name in Maurice Lynn.

\* \* \* \* \*

Little David Everett arrived September 2 in Red Bluff to gladden the home of Pastor and Mrs. Everett Morgan.

\* \* \* \* \*

Brother and Sister Walker Hall, who expect to return to China soon, leaving October 27, have welcomed a newcomer into the family circle. Larry Bruce, their third son, was born August 24. Larry has one sister, Juanelle, born in Stanley Prison while her parents were interned by the Japanese during the war. Arlin and Cecil, though very small at the time, endured the hardships of internment, too.

### With the Lord

After a critical illness, suffering from peritonitis, Roland Persing, 26, passed away in an Oakland hospital September 20. The funeral was held in the Richmond church, Brothers D. G. Weston, L. H. Rogers, and R. J. Thurmond officiating. Interment was at Modesto. His wife and parents have our heartfelt sympathy and prayers for sustaining grace.

### Personal Mention

Evangelist VIRGIL and EDYTHE WARENS are leaving California and will be holding meetings in Georgia, in Columbus and in Atlanta. They expect to spend a little time in Miami, Florida.

\* \* \* \* \*

Brother and Sister BEN WILSON and family are visiting friends and relatives in California. A brother of Reuben Wilson of Roseville, he has been pastor in Coulee City, Washington, for the past 11 years.

\* \* \* \* \*

Brother CLYDE V. HUMMEL recently held a second revival campaign for Brother Virgil T. Eldridge in Burley, Idaho. Several were saved and some were filled with the Holy Ghost.

\* \* \* \* \*

Evangelist MYRTLE WOLFORD, now living in Mountain View, recently held a revival meeting in Ivanhoe, Oklahoma. There were 14 saved and 12 filled with the Holy Spirit.

\* \* \* \* \*

ROBERT CARRINGTON was the principal speaker at the second annual youth conference at the Ontario Lakeshore Camp. Many young people received the infilling of the Spirit and many were saved and reclaimed. About 40 young people consecrated their lives for full-time service wherever and whenever God may lead.

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Brother L. W. SUTER and Brother M. M. YORK, the district presbyter, were in several churches in the Nevada section from July 28 to August 8 holding Sunday school conferences. They were in Elko, Lovelock, Hawthorne, Fallon, and in Quincy, California.

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Should any pastor in the District find it necessary to be absent from his church during a Sunday, Brother Z. P. MILLER notifies that he is available to supply. His address is Route 5, Box 262, San Jose. Phone Mayfair 677.

\* \* \* \* \*

Evangelist THOMAS B. DON CARLOS was in attendance at the General Council and reported to Brother Thurmond that he had three months meetings in Canada and had just finished a meeting in Detroit at Bethesda Missionary Temple, where the Lord signally blessed with an old-time Pentecostal revival.

### Golden Wedding Anniversary

At a family reunion with their six children and their families to join in the occasion, Brother and Sister L. F. Wilson celebrated their fiftieth wedding anniversary in Roseville on September 26. Many friends over the District sent greetings and remembrances and best wishes for many more happy years together. Brother and Sister Wilson have served as pastors in Tuolumne, Los Banos, Lakeport, and in Willits during their years of ministry among us, and Brother Wilson served as district presbyter for a number of years. In recent months they have retired from pastoral work and have gone to Fort Bragg to make their home. May the Lord bless them and continue to use them for His glory.

### Follow Your Guide

Some people, being led through Mammoth Cave, Ky., were brought into the hall called "The Cathedral." The guide mounted a rock called "The Pulpit" and said he would preach a sermon. It was a short one—"Keep close to your guide." The people found it was good advice for if they did not, it would mean they would be lost.

Christians should keep close to their guide—Jesus Christ. "I am the way," said Jesus. He knows the way to heaven, and if we follow Him He will lead us there.

### Youth

(Continued from page 9) draws the youth; but what have you got in the way of solid church material? Having reached the youth quite effectively, we sold them the idea of reaching their parents and neighbors and the young people have been able to get folk that I was told would never be seen darkening the inside of a church. We have seen the adult services double and then triple in attendance and interest. Children and young people can reach their parents far more effectively than the best preacher in the world. If we can get the children soundly converted and interested in church activities we feel that they will reach the adult members of the community in a quicker, more efficient and effective way than we could ever do—and they are doing it. Hence I say, I am firmly sold on youth work!

(E. Judson Cornwall was sectional chairman of the N. Sacramento District, and was the pastor in Stirling City.)

## Spirits In Prison

(Continued from page 4)

some other way to explain the enigma, if indeed it is an enigma.

In the fifth and sixth verses of the next chapter we read, "Who shall give account to Him that is ready to judge the quick and the dead. For for this cause was the gospel preached also to them that are dead, that they might be judged according to men in the flesh, but live according to God in the spirit." What does this passage mean? Does it mean that the gospel was preached to people *after* they had died? Or does it mean that it was preached to them while they were alive, but that they had died, and were dead at the time Peter wrote, so that he spake of them as "them that are dead"? The Bible tells us that "the dead know not any thing" (Ec. 9:5). Why preach to them? Evidently it was while they were living that the gospel was preached to them, that they might be given opportunity to repent, and be saved, and "live according to God in the spirit." They will be "judged" after they shall have been raised from the dead just as will the living at the coming of Christ be judged, the object of their having been preached to before they died being "that they might be judged according to men in the flesh," that is, that even though dead at the time of the Lord's coming it might not be said that they had not had an equal chance with those found alive upon the earth at that time. It will be seen that they did have an equal chance, for the gospel which would have brought salvation had it been accepted was preached to them before they died, as well as to those found living at the Lord's coming.

Of course the gospel was not preached to *all* who are dead. Many died, multiplied millions, without having heard that Christ was to come, or that Christ had come; but it is not to these that Peter refers; he is speaking of those to whom the gospel *was* preached while they were living in order that at the resurrection "they might be judged according to men in the flesh." Those to whom the gospel was not preached before they died God will deal with righteously. They will not "be judged according to men in the flesh"; we can be sure of that. "Shall not the Judge of all the earth do right?"

Turning to 1 Peter 1:10, 11, we read that the prophets who "prophesied of

the grace that should come" searched "what, or what manner of time the Spirit of Christ which was in them did signify, when it testified beforehand the sufferings of Christ, and the glory that should follow." So we see that it was Christ who, through the Spirit, preached or prophesied through the prophets. Noah was "a preacher of righteousness" (2 Peter 2:5). To whom did he preach? To the antediluvians, warning them, undoubtedly, of the coming judgment of the flood. It was "the Spirit of Christ" in him by whom they were warned, and summoned to repent; thus our Lord went centuries before He became "God manifest in the flesh" and preached to those who refused to heed the preaching but "were disobedient, when once the longsuffering of God waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was a preparing." They were not "spirits in prison" then; they were "men in the flesh," and they became "spirits in prison" as a result of their disobedience, and were in confinement at the time Peter lived and wrote.

This, in my opinion, is the sane and sensible explanation of a passage of Scripture that men have very frequently wrested to their own destruction or to the destruction of others.

There were "unlearned and unstable" men in Peter's day, and there have been such all the way down through the centuries. And many of them have aspired to be teachers. That is why we have had so much teaching that has been false and has led many astray.

False and destructive doctrines have been founded upon misinterpretations of God's Word. So it is important that we have a right understanding of it. And if we find a passage somewhere that we do not understand, because our minds are not yet sufficiently mature or we are not yet in the place where the Holy Spirit can impress the truth upon our hearts, let us do what we always do when we eat fish: eat the meat, and

leave the bones. We shall find that the bones are not so very numerous, and after a while, when our minds shall have become more mature, and our hearts more receptive, we may find that many of the "bones" are quite digestible. In any event, let us not allow ourselves to be choked to death. If we do, there is a likelihood that we shall find some day that we, too, are "spirits in prison," looking back to the time when Christ, through His messengers, repeatedly warned us to flee from the wrath to come, and not to follow the example of those who refused to heed the warnings of "the Spirit of Christ" who preached to them through Noah prior to the great deluge that overwhelmed the antediluvian world.

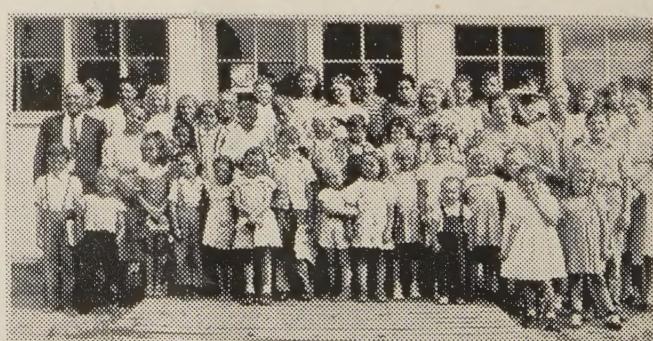
### Blessed Assurance

(*The fool hath said in his heart there is no God.*)—Psalm 53:1

If it had not been for Thee, O God,  
We had not a Saviour for our soul!  
If it had not been for Thee, O God,  
We had not the blood to make us  
whole!  
If it had not been for Thee, O God,  
We had not resurrection from death  
to life!  
If it had not been for Thee, O God,  
We had not life everlasting from this  
world of strife!  
If it had not been for Thee, O God,  
We had not looked for Jesus coming  
again!  
If it had not been for Thee, O God,  
Our prayers and supplications had  
been in vain!  
If it had not been for Thee, O God,  
We had not the downpouring of the  
Holy Ghost!  
If it had not been for Thee, O God,  
We had not fellowship with the  
heavenly host!  
If seducing Satan the earth had not trod,  
The fool had not said there is no God.

—Ida M. Campbell.

Pastor E. E. Zimmerman  
and the Sunday school at  
the labor camp near  
Winters. Brother P. E. Robertson  
took the picture while he  
held meetings there early  
in the summer.



## Missions

(Continued from page 5)

the service and suffer with the cold. There is a good deal of sickness during this time. We really do appreciate their faithfulness in coming because we know what a sacrifice to comfort it often is for them.

"The Mohammedans are celebrating the *Ramadan*. It is their month of fasting. They are not permitted to eat or drink during the day, but at sundown they feast. They have better food at this time than at any other time of the year. Night and morning we can hear them at their prayers. At the end of this time they will have a great celebration. It makes our hearts ache to see the people turning to this.

"We are glad that for the past few months Harold has been in good health. For the first year it seemed he was sick so much of the time. It took him a long time to get acclimated, but now he is enjoying his usual good health."

### Philippines

Brother Clyde Shields wrote in July after being on the field for only a month. They are at Bethel Bible Institute, Pozorrubio, Pangasinan.

"In this month we have moved three times. Though we are not fixed for entertaining we have had a large number of missionaries to stay with us. Eight different ones have shared our home so far and we were glad to have them. The house we rented had no furniture; so the suitcases, trunks, missionary barrels and boxes that held our things on the ship serve as our furniture now. Our house is a native house, made of bamboo and nipa, which is a sort of grass. It has a tin roof, which makes the interior like an oven when the sun is shining, as we have no ceiling. When the rain comes the tin cools off, but what a noise is made with rain hitting tin. It is almost deafening at times. The house sits on stilts eight feet high, and we climb to our door by way of a bamboo ladder which faintly resembles a ladder. Being so high we escape much of the dampness, and we also give the chickens, dogs, pigs, and other animals a shelter under the house, not that we like them there, of course. The landlady keeps her four pigs staked under our home all the time; so it's like living in a pig pen, only we occupy the second story as it were. It is impossible to screen a native house as there are so many openings in the

bamboo walls and floor. Because of all the openings we have plenty of ants, flies, mosquitoes, and other bugs. Evidently these pests like missionary life because they are with us at all hours of the day and night.

"Both of us teach in the District Assemblies of God Bible School. There are 32 students this year. They come from all parts of the Philippines to study God's Word. They come with no food, no money, and very little clothing. It is a real sacrifice for them to be here, but they will endure any hardship for the opportunity to study the Bible. After graduating, each student will go to a remote part of the Islands to evangelize his people.

"We also help in the native church here and soon we will be doing visitation and revival work in our stations."

### Samoa

Maurice H. Luce writes: "They call me 'Missie' (a contraction of the word *missionary*). They are very glad that I have arrived, for they have been looking for 'Missie' a long time. Several babies have been named Luce (pronounced *Lu-see*) after 'Missie'; that is an honor which is a new experience to me.

"The Samoans gave me a very enthusiastic welcome. Ten chiefs met me at the dock and escorted me to one of their houses where speeches of welcome were made and the Royal Kava ceremony was performed. Language study and learning the customs of the people is keeping me busy. Although the Samoan language is not difficult, it will be many months before I will be able to preach in the native tongue.

"Recently I returned from a trip to the island of Upolu in British Samoa where I attended a large meeting of the Samoans who are particularly interested in my arrival. A Bible school is being completed there. In time to come I will be spending much time there as director of the school. The two large islands of British Samoa are approximately 400 and 700 square miles in area and have many miles of well-kept roads. The scenery is beautiful, verdant, and tropical, and the frequent rains keep the vegetation fresh and constantly growing. The combined populations of American and British Samoa number about 70,000. Nearly all of the villages are located by the roadsides. We are trusting that we will soon have a car to

## Potential Foes Said to Have Deadliest Bombs

General George C. Kenney has said "potential enemies" of the United States have aircraft which can carry to this country "known weapons of mass destruction more deadly and far cheaper than the atomic bomb."

If there is another war, the head of the strategic air command declared, "We will be lucky to have eight hours warning of a blitzkrieg blow designed to knock us out in a few days."

In a speech prepared for the first national convention of the Air Force Association, Kennedy said:

"The rate of technical development of weapons of warfare is now so rapid and the effect of changes in technique so far reaching that it has become fatal to the national security to lag behind in development or in thought.

"Only if we maintain the technical lead in aviation can we have the number one air force. If we don't have the number one air force we might just as well have none."

Kennedy said this country's combat aviation which "we would have to rely on in case of trouble," is "in pretty fair shape."

He added:

The few airplanes we have today are rapidly becoming obsolete and will have to be replaced during the next few years if we are to remain on top in the aviation race.

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contact the villages. The Administrator of British Samoa, in an interview, expressed the opinion that there is an 'untouched field among all the churches of Samoa for genuine heart conversions.' It is hoped that this would be among our objectives and I gave assurance that it is. With this information, it can readily be seen that there is a need for a heaven-sent revival and a Spirit-filled ministry.

"The situation reminds one much of the story of Philip, who found the Ethiopian eunuch reading the Word but not understanding its message. We will be in a very similar position as that of Philip. Next week I will begin Bible studies here in American Samoa several nights a week. The eagerness with which the people have expressed themselves is very encouraging and I am praying that God will bring forth definite results."

# Current Signs

A DIGEST OF CURRENT EVENTS BY ALBERT J. LEBECK

## Hearts Failing Them for Fear

"The bizarre pact of eight Canadian and American soldiers who vowed to commit suicide if the postwar world failed to justify the horrors they experienced in a Japanese prison camp was disclosed recently by Cornelius Vanderbilt, Jr.

Vanderbilt, millionaire playboy and grandson of the famed Commodore Vanderbilt, told the tale to a coroner's jury inquiring into the death of his personal secretary, Canadian-born Melvin C. Roberts, 27.

"Six of the eight men" who were in that horrible Japanese prison camp, Vanderbilt said, "already have fulfilled their pledge."

Their vow was taken during the dark years of their internment, from 1941 to 1945. The story of the suicide pact came after Roberts (one of the men) heard a speech on chaotic world conditions—Russia and other postwar problems—by General Mark Clark, Sixth Army Commander, in Reno. Soon after the speech, Roberts committed suicide. He was the sixth of the eight to do so.

Not only to privates, but to many brass hats as well, and to world leaders in general, the world situation looks hopelessly entangled and involved. Our Lord foretold it in these words: "Men's hearts failing them for fear and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth. . . . And there shall be upon the earth distress of nations, with perplexity (with no way out)—And when these things begin to come to pass, then look up, and lift up your heads; for your redemption draweth nigh" (Luke 21:26, 25, 27).

This is not a time to commit suicide—it is a time to LOOK UP—

The man who knows not the Lord is in a hopeless muddle: but the Bible-knowing Christian understands that out of all this turmoil and trouble the kingdom of Christ will be born!

## Gambling Dwarfs the Atom Bomb

A terrifying total of 750,000 confirmed alcoholics and 3,000,000 other excessive drinkers in the United States

has opened the eyes of intelligent people everywhere to the menace of unrestricted alcohol.

Another national menace, however has found ready social acceptance in many places, has penetrated into churches of both Catholicism and Protestantism, and is spreading its tentacles like some monstrous octopus of evil. This menace is the growth of the gambling habit.

Many people look upon gambling as something that is limited to a friendly game of poker or pinochle, or as a bet made at a golf game.

Actually it is a vast and highly organized business enterprise. While we spent only \$2,000,000,000 to produce the atomic bomb, the greatest scientific marvel of this age, the American public poured the astronomical figure of \$10,000,000,000, or five times the cost of the atom bomb, into gambling ventures. And seventy-five per cent of them were illegal.

This amount was absorbed not only by horse-racing bets, but by dice games, the numbers racket, dog racing, and football and baseball pools. The gambling business is well organized to aid the public in "losing its shirt."

The total spent on pari-mutuel betting (legalized gambling), covering the eighteen states that permit it, was \$1,306,514,314. On this expenditure the state and the city treasuries collected \$65,484,121 in tax deductions.

An estimate on illegal betting on horses puts it at two and one-half times the amount spent at legalized tracks, or \$3,276,285,785. This gives us a total of \$4,582,800,009 squandered on horse racing alone.

## The End of the World

In the July *Coronet* is a "picture story" article entitled "THE END OF THE WORLD," by Chesley Bonestell. It is a resume of "threats to world safety" known to astronomers, "In the opinion of experts these are some of the catastrophes which may some day plunge the earth into chaos."

(1) *Revolt of the sun.* "According to astronomers, internal disturbances may suddenly cause the sun to expand to as much as three times its normal size. The resulting increase in heat would raise the temperature of the earth to about that of melting lead" and all life on earth would be scorched.

(2) *The battle of gravity.* "The stars travel at such tremendous speeds and in so many different directions that some day one might enter our solar system." Catastrophe would result. "In a few minutes our planet, and possibly the whole solar system, would be entirely disintegrated."

(3) *Death by freezing.* "Among the potential destroyers of our planet are the dark stars—those invisible cold masses whose presence is known only by their attraction for other heavenly bodies. If a dark star should kidnap us from the sun by pulling us out of our orbit, a loss of only a small percentage of the sun's heat would freeze the earth" and all life would be destroyed.

(4) *Waves of pressure.* "When the asteroid Hermes crossed the earth's orbit in 1938 it missed us by only 485,000 miles and did no damage. But if—a similar small planet should ever come real close the tremendous pressure wave it created would flatten everything in its path" and life on earth would be destroyed.

(5) *Devastating sunshine.* "Death from the sun could strike tomorrow, for, like the other stars, the sun can at any moment become a nova, giving off a vast atmosphere of hot gas. By expanding, this gas would engulf us—and finally vaporize our planet." A few other dangers are mentioned. The article is illustrated by vivid color drawings.

—Christian Victory.

God will destroy the earth (see 2 Peter 3:7-11) and create "the new heavens and the new earth" (Rev. 21:1).

## Revolutionary Radio Tube

A revolutionary new "traveling wave" radio tube capable of amplifying simultaneously 250,000 telephone conversations or 300 black and white television broadcasts was announced.

The new tube can amplify 100 simultaneous television color broadcasts as well as 300 black and white telecasts.